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REPORT NO.

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Labor Conscription in Thuringia;
Forced Labor Camp for Uranium Miners

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1. Beginning in mid-June 1949, approximately 32,000 workers were being sought in Thuringia as conscripts for mining work in the Aue-Oberschlema area. Conscription results are not known, but it is reported that during a muster of 300 workers in Jena, only seventy passed the medical fitness test.
2. Miners in the Aue-Oberschlema area who break labor rules are punished by deportation to a forced labor camp near Joachimsthal on the Czech side of the border. Sentences are passed by the so-called Fellowship Courts (Kameradschaftsgerichte), composed of reliable Communist workers and SED functionaries. Deportation may be made for alleged sabotage, attempted flight, persistent slow work, and unexcused absence from labor.

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